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09/865,043	05/24/2001	Claudia Alimpich	AM997158US2	3107

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CAO H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2173

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
09/865,043

Applicant(s)  
Alimpich et al.

Examiner  
Cao (Kevin) Nguyen

Art Unit  
2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Feb 6, 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 30-59 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 30-59 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other:

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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103© and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

2. Claims 30-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shalit (US Patent No. 5,714,971) in view of Williams et al. (US Patent No. 6,043,816).

Regarding claim 30, Shalit discloses a method for executing tasks with devices, comprising displaying a first tree view of a hierarchy of a first set of user selectable elements

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representing devices in a first pane of a graphical user interface (GUI) window (see col. 2, lines 8-56); displaying a second tree view of a hierarchy of a second set of user selectable elements representing tasks capable of being executed by the devices in a second pane of the GUI window (see col. 4, lines 43-67); however, Shalit fails to explicitly teach receiving indication of user selection of one of the tasks displayed in the second pane; and one of the devices displayed in the first pane to cause the selected device to execute the selected task.

Williams teaches receiving indication of user selection of one of the tasks displayed in the second pane and one of the devices displayed in the first pane to cause the selected device to execute the selected task (see col. 4, lines 4-67). It would have been obvious to one of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide receiving indication of user selection of one of the tasks displayed in the second pane and one of the devices displayed in the first pane to cause the selected device to execute the selected task as taught by Williams to the window interactive user interface of Shalit, in order to add interactive selection of printing processes to Shalit because it would allow a user to view and edits the contents of a print job, which could be stored as objects, or indicating user working status of window operation going on in the various windows.

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Regarding claim 31, Williams discloses receiving indication of user selection of one of the selectable elements displayed in the first pane or the second pane; and displaying additional data related to the user selected element in a third pane in the GUI window, wherein the third pane is capable of displaying additional data related to selectable elements the user selected in the first and second panes (see col. 6, lines 1-65).

Regarding claim 32, Shalit discloses wherein the additional data displayed in the third pane in response to selection of one selectable element in the first pane representing one device indicates an operation status of at least one device (see figure 6).

Regarding claim 33, Williams discloses wherein the additional data displayed in the third pane in response to user selection of one selectable element in the second pane representing one task indicates information on the task (see col. 7, lines 1-61).

Regarding claim 34, Williams discloses after one task for which information is displayed has completed executing, displaying the second pane without the selectable element representing the task that has completed (see figure 3d).

Regarding claim 35, Williams discloses further comprising receiving indication of user selection of one selectable element in the first pane associated with all the user selectable elements representing the devices; and displaying additional data in a third pane indicating an operational status of all the devices represented by user selectable elements displayed in the first pane (see col. 8, lines 13-67 and figures 6-7).

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Regarding claim 39, Shalit discloses wherein receiving indication of user selection of one of the tasks and one of the devices comprises receiving user indication of dragging one task represented in the second pane and dropping the dragged task to one device represented in the first pane (see col. 9, lines 4-59).

As claims 40-45, 49-55 and 59 are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 31-39 above.

3. Claims 36-38, 46-48 and 56-58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shalit and Williams as applied to claims 31-35 above, and further in view of Hower, Jr. et al.

Regarding claim 36, Shalit and Williams fails to explicitly disclose wherein the devices represented by the user selectable elements comprise printers and wherein the tasks represented by the user selectable elements in the second pane comprise print jobs.

Hower teaches wherein the devices represented by the user selectable elements comprise printers and wherein the tasks represented by the user selectable elements in the second pane comprise print jobs (see col. 9, lines 1-67). It would have been obvious to one of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide print job as taught by Hower to the GUI window of Williams and Shalit so that the print job selections available at the printer corresponding to the selected print queue are displayed to the user via the user interface.

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Regarding claim 37 and 38, Hower discloses further comprising displaying in a third pane status of print jobs represented by user selectable elements in the second pane; and displaying in the third pane media available at each printer represented by the user selectable elements in the first pane (see figures 3-5).

As claims 46-48 and 56-58 are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 36-38 above.

*Response to Arguments*

4. Applicant's arguments filed on April 14, 2000 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

On page 8 of the Remarks, Applicant argues that the combination by William and Shalit do not teach or suggest "displaying a first tree view of a hierarchy of a first set of user selectable elements representing devices in a first pane of a graphical user interface (GUI) window".

However, the limitations as claimed set forth to read on "When you want to view the contents of an object, you have three choices you can open the object in its own special window with the prior art Finder; you can open the object in another pane as described above and below in accordance with the invention; you can open the object in line, by using the triangles, in accordance with an aspect of the invention described below and illustrated in FIGS. 5A-5C." see Shalit col. 6, lines 9-67.

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In response to page 9 applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Shalit teaches tree object hierarchy used in combination by William's receiving indication of user selection of one of the tasks displayed in the second pane and one of the devices displayed in the first pane to cause the selected device to execute the selected task. One skill in the art would have been obvious to provide receiving indication of user selection of one of the tasks displayed in the second pane and one of the devices displayed in the first pane to cause the selected device to execute the selected task as taught by Williams to the window interactive user interface of Shalit, in order to add interactive selection of printing processes to Shalit because it would allow a user to view and edit the contents of a print job, which could be stored as objects or indicating user working status of window operation going on in the various windows.

On page 10 of the Remarks, Applicant argues that the combination by William and Shalit do not teach or suggest "receiving indication of user selection of one of the tasks displayed in the second pane and one of the devices displayed in the first pane to cause the selected device to



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execute the selected task". However, the limitations as claimed set forth to read on "FIGS. 3a through 3d present a scenario that demonstrates the way in which navigation tabs provide these benefits in situations in which a task takes a large amount of system time to complete and the user wants to go on to other tasks. Assume that the user has finished providing information to the application and the application is now installing messages on a number of remote systems. This installation may take a large amount of time and in the meantime the user has other tasks that must be accomplished, including a relatively urgent task of changing the SNMP parameters for a set of systems. As can be seen in user interface of FIG. 3a, the content pane presents the user with a message indicating that the installation is in progress. There are two navigation tabs at the bottom of the content area. One tab is a replaceable tab for the current location in the application and the other tab is one that keeps accessible the previous task of adding a user. The user can use a menu item 18 or tool-bar button 19 to designate the current location as keep accessible. If the user does not designate the location as keep accessible, the application will automatically make the designation for the user to prevent the information on the status of the task from being lost when the user navigates to a new task location." see William col. 7, lines 1-50.

On page 11 of the Remarks, Applicant argues that the combination by William and Shalit do not teach or suggest "one selectable element associated with all the user selectable elements in the first pane that when selected causes the display of additional data in a third pane indicating

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the operational status of all the device..” However, the limitations as claimed set forth to read on William “The relationship between child and parent windows vis-a-vis navigation tabs will now be explored. When the user moves the contents of a navigation tab into a child window with the "display in new window" operation, the navigation tab that was most recently visited will be presented as the active tab in the parent window. For example, if the user were to access the "display in new window" operation for the "Fort Collins" navigation tab 13 in FIG. 4a, user interface would be replaced by user interface in FIG. 4b. The child window would appear as interface in FIG. 4c. When a user takes action to return a child window to the parent window, the contents of the child window will be presented as the active tab in the current window and its navigation tab state, whether "reusable" or "keep accessible," will be the same as it was when the user originally took the action to present the tab in the child window. For example, the windows in FIGS. 4b and 4c would be merged to appear as the window in FIG. 4a. The operation "close tab" causes the navigation tab to be removed. If a navigation tab is currently on top when the "close tab" operation is selected, the user interface of the window will default to the application location associated with the navigation tab that was viewed just prior to this navigation tab. For example, if the user were to use the "close tab" operation on navigation tab 13 for "Fort Collins" in FIG. 4a, the result would be the presentation of user interface 150 in FIG. 4b. If the most recently visited navigation tab is the last remaining navigation tab in the parent window, then one of three things may occur. First, the user will be allowed to close the navigation tab. The user would subsequently be presented with a new navigation tab and its associated view, such as the

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last location. Second, the menu item and the toolbar button for the "close tab" state may be made inaccessible by making them gray, for instance, so that the user will not attempt to take this action. Third, the user will be presented with a confirmation dialog box that inquires as to whether the user wants to exit the application since closing the navigation tab will close the last visible location in the application." see col. 7, lines 63-67 and col. 8, lines 1-34.

On page 12 of the Remarks, Applicant argues that the combination by Hower, William and Shalit do not teach or suggest "user selectable elements comprise printers and wherein the tasks represented by the user selectable elements in the second pane comprise print jobs."

However, the limitations as claimed set forth to read on Hower "printing system having a printer bank with a plurality of printers, the printers being respectively associated with printer profiles, each of the printer profiles having a set of printer properties available at the printer with which the printer profile is associated, comprising an input section, being remote from the printer bank, including means for programming a combination of print job selections, and a memory section for storing a selected one of the printer profiles; and means for comparing the programmed combination of print job selections from said programming means with a subset of the set of printer properties available in the selected one of the printer profiles from said memory section, wherein the set of printer properties available in the selected one of the printer profiles comprises a hierarchical list of the print job selections, the combination of print job selections being transmitted to one of the plurality of printers associated with the selected one of the printer profiles when the combination of print job selections corresponds with the subset of the set of

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printer properties available at the one of the plurality of printers associated with the selected one of the printer profiles." see col. 9, lines 37-67.

**Conclusion**

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. (PTO-892).

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

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*Response*

6. Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, (703) 308-9051 may be used for formal communications or (703) 305-9724 for informal or draft communications.

Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for informal facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document.


Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA. Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cao (Kevin) Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Cabeca, can be reached on (703) 308-3116. The fax number for this group is (703) 308-6606.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

  
**CAO (KEVIN) NGUYEN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

*April 1, 2004*

